

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

JENNIFER THORNBERRY,

Plaintiff,

v.

KILOLO KIJAKAZI,
ACTING COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL
SECURITY,

Defendant.

Case No. 1:21-cv-00543-AWI-HBK

ORDER GRANTING PARTIES' JOINT
MOTION TO REMAND UNDER SENTENCE
FOUR OF 42 U.S.C. § 405(g), REVERSING
FINAL DECISION AND REMANDING
CASE

(Doc. No. 13)

Pending before the Court is the Parties' Joint Motion to Remand filed June 6, 2022. (Doc. No. 13). Plaintiff Jennifer Thornberry and the Commissioner of Social Security agree that this case should be remanded for further administrative proceedings under sentence four of 42 U.S.C. § 405(g). (*Id.*).

The United States Supreme Court held that the Social Security Act permits remand in conjunction with a judgment either affirming, reversing, or modifying the Secretary's decision. *See Melkonyan v. Sullivan*, 501 U.S. 89, 97-98 (1991) (addressing issue of attorney's fees under the Equal Access to Justice Act and calculating deadline using date of final judgment). The *Melkonyan* Court recognized 42 U.S.C. § 405(g) contemplates only two types of remand – sentence four or sentence six. *Id.* at 98. A sentence four remand authorizes a court to enter “a

1 judgment affirming, modifying, or reversing the decision of the Secretary, with or without
2 resetting the cause for a rehearing.” *Id.* at 98 (other citations omitted).

3 The Court grants the Parties’ motion to remand under sentence four and reverses the
4 Commissioner’s final decision. On remand, the prior ALJ decision will be vacated, and the
5 agency will issue a new decision.

6 Accordingly, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

7 1. Pursuant to sentence four of 42 U.S.C. § 405(g), the Court grants the joint motion to
8 remand (Doc. No. 13) and REVERSES the Commissioner’s decision. This case is REMANDED
9 to the Commissioner of Social Security for further proceedings consistent with this Order.

10 2. An application for attorney fees may be filed by separate motion.

11 3. The Clerk shall enter judgment in favor of Plaintiff, terminate any pending motions and
12 deadlines, and close this case.

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14 IT IS SO ORDERED.

15 Dated: June 10, 2022

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SENIOR DISTRICT JUDGE